

greater part of Poland is converted during the next months, the Russians are expected to throw all their strength against the Austrians and attempt finally to crush them.

The mutiny which hastened the surrender of Przemyśl and other events which preceded the final sortie of the beleaguered garrison are described in the following official communication issued here:

"During the last days before the final sortie the garrison received increased rations. Each soldier was given biscuits to last five days, warm new clothing and new boots. Officers were instructed to explain to the troops that if they returned to the fortress an inglorious fate awaited them, and consequently they must pierce the Russian front at any cost.

Men Refuse to Obey.

"An easterly direction was chosen for the sortie as the line of least resistance, as well as because it led to the district where the Russians had large stores of arms and ammunition. More than twenty thousand men were ordered to participate in the sortie, but several units refused to move, despite the urgings of the commanders. Only the 23d Honved division and some parts of the 85th Landwehr and 4th Hussars took an active part. They were promptly and decisively defeated.

"An official Austrian communication states that the garrison returned to Przemyśl, because it encountered overwhelming Russian forces. In this connection it should be noted that the Russian forces near Przemyśl never were large, and the great sortie was repulsed principally by territorial troops and reserves. The total number of the captured garrison exceeded Russian expectations."

It is reported that nearly a quarter of the garrison of Przemyśl had suffered with typhoid and scurvy. Though the rats were growing more and more limited, none but a few of the higher officers, up to the end of January, knew that actual starvation was impending. The real condition was learned by the troops when the Russian forces were starting with messages for Vienna, was shot down by the defenders and fell within the defenders' lines. After that there was much grumbling in the garrison and almost a mutiny. Some of the Austrians slipped through the lines that night and surrendered to the Russians.

Many Made Insane.

The investing Russian forces increased the intensity of their bombardment, and the strain on the defenders began to tell more rapidly during February. Many were rendered insane by privations and disease. They filled every available place, but were without medical attention. The death list was very high.

Civilian inhabitants who had been unable to escape when the siege began swarmed about the forts begging food and refuge, but the commandant was unable to care for them. The death of two prominent men in February from typhoid tended to weaken the forces of General von Kusmanek.

By the end of February actual famine prevailed; scarcely a living animal was left. For weeks the only sustenance was obtained from small supplies of concentrated foodstuffs brought by aeroplanes.

A council of officers daily considered the situation, but until they were convinced that there was no hope of help from an Austrian relief column did they reach the decision to surrender.

Final Appeal to Troops.

General von Kusmanek's final but futile appeal to his troops to win a way from the fortress has been transmitted to Petrograd. The Austrian commander said:

"Soldiers: For half a year we children of almost all nationalities of the beloved Fatherland have been here, the help of God and your bravery we have successfully defended the fortress against the enemy, despite attacks, privations and cold.

You already merit the highest gratitude of your commander-in-chief and country, and have won the admiration even of the enemy. In the beloved Fatherland thousands of hearts beat with you and millions wait with bated breath for news from you. Heroes, I announce to you my last summons. The honor of your country demands it. I shall lead you to pierce with your points of steel the iron circle of the enemy.

On then, march on, even further, inspiring in your efforts until we reach the main army which, after a hard fight, now nears us. We are on the eve of a great battle. For an enemy will be reluctant to abandon a prize he has coveted so long. Know, then, true defenders of Przemyśl, each must have but one thought. That is, forward, ever forward. Smash everything that bars your path.

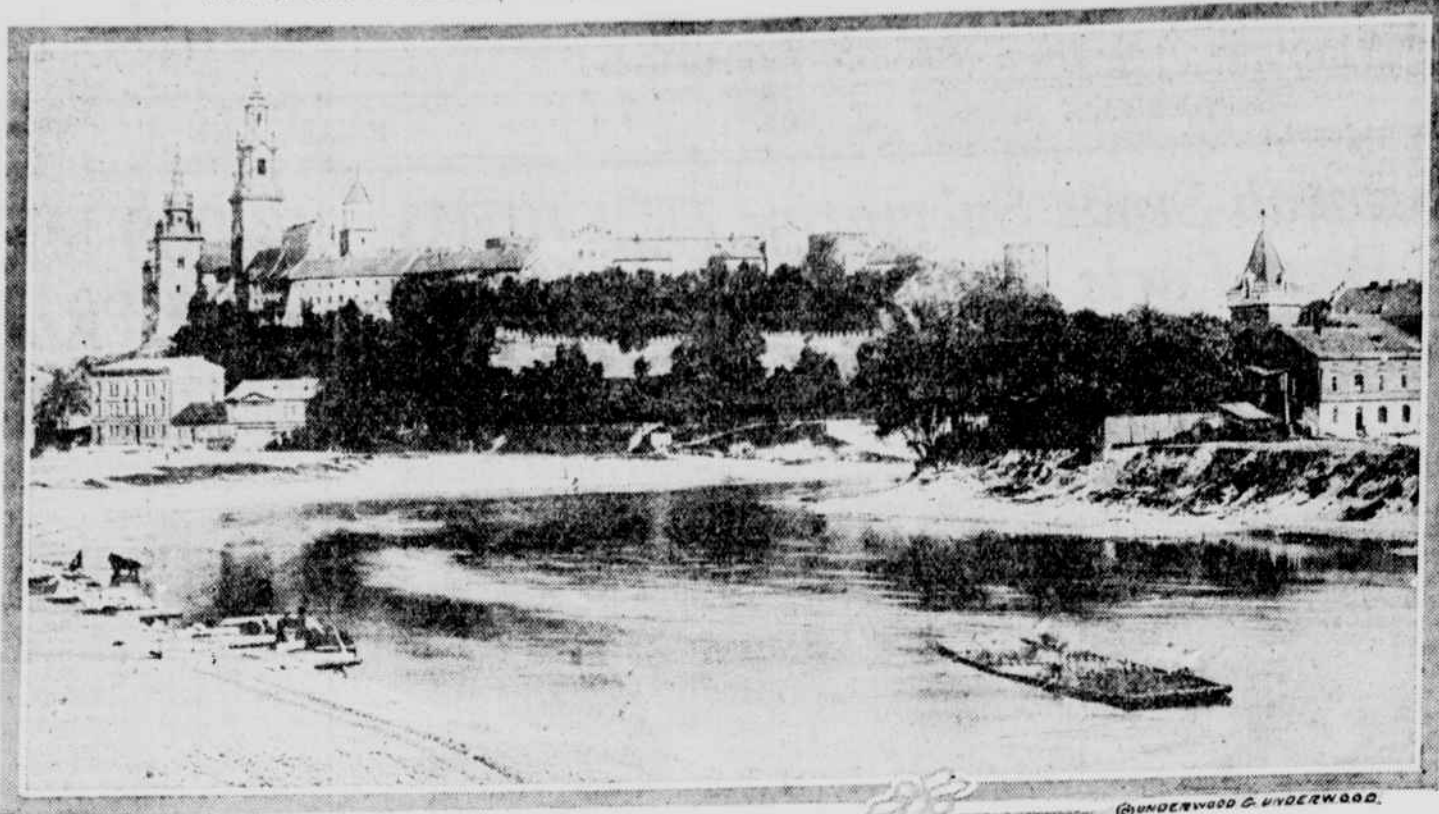
Soldiers, we have shared our last provisions. The honor of our country and ourselves forbids that after our glorious struggle we should fall an easy prey to the enemy. Be heroic, warriors, and we shall open the way.

Fortress Well Equipped.

The captured fortress, which now resumes its old Russian name of "Przemyśl," was magnificently equipped in the way of engineering and artillery and was defended with greater skill and determination than the Austrians have shown anywhere else. Day attacks were impossible and night attacks were difficult owing to the many searchlights, but the Russians attacked steadily forward, getting their guns gradually into dominant positions till they could choose their own time for the completion of victory.

All the centres of population in Russia have spontaneously decided to place the conquest of Przemyśl high in the annals of their country. The capture of the fortress was the first to declare the historic dimensions of the victory. On Sunday night the old capital was visited by a terrific snowstorm, accompanied by thunder and lightning. Throughout yesterday the beautiful city was covered deeply with snow and traffic was nearly at a standstill. Then

VIEW OF CITY OF CRACOW, KEY TO SOUTHERN GERMANY AND NEXT GOAL OF RUSSIAN ARMIES.



early in the afternoon the word spread from the prefecture that Przemyśl had been taken. Within an hour crowds were hastening to the main streets and squares. An immense procession of citizens of all classes—workmen, under-graduate students of the Women's University, wounded soldiers, nurses and priests—marched, singing, through the streets to a service of rejoicing before the Plesna Memorial Chapel, near the Kremlin gates.

Petrograd Enthusiasm.

The celebrations at Petrograd developed as the day advanced. The greatest numbers gathered in the industrial districts on the outskirts of the city. Directors of factories, with their office staffs and workmen, formed in great legions and joined the many thousands in the tramway parks. Bearing the flags of Russia and her allies, the crowds sang the Russian anthem and other hymns and visited the monuments of national heroes. Under the drifting snow outside the Kazan Cathedral there was an imposing spectacle. Another great procession passed during the early hours of the line starry night to the Neva Quay, where enthusiastic cheers were raised outside the British and French embassies. The ambassadors appeared and thanked and congratulated the Russians.

The night's rejoicings culminated in tremendous cheering around the Alexander column in the square of the Winter Palace, where orators saluted the army's achievement and declared the capture of Przemyśl must seal the fate of the Hapsburg empire. The people responded with acclamation when the speakers affirmed the unbreakable union of the Allies.

General Selivanoff, who commands the victorious army at Przemyśl, is nearly seventy years old. He has seen service in all Russian wars since the Turkish war of 1877, and served with distinction during the Boxer troubles and the Manchurian campaign. He is a member of the upper house, and left that assembly for the field.

Attack on Germany from South Pictured

London, March 23.—That the fall of Przemyśl is far more important even than is generally stated by the experts, as it leads to the opening of the road to Cracow, the capture of which will definitely mark the beginning of the end of the war, is the opinion of John Buchan, the military authority, whose lecture yesterday Sir Edward Grey made the occasion for a notable speech. Mr. Buchan, at the end of his lecture to The Tribune, said:

"When Cracow falls the end of the war will be in sight. The Russians will then be at the headquarters of the River Oder, upsetting all the German calculations and circumventing practically all the German fortifications, which have been built only with the object of defending against an attack from the east. Now the fall of Przemyśl opens the way for an advance on Cracow. In this fashion it gives the Russians an opportunity for clearing the Carpathian passes, without which Cracow could not be taken, for, as the Russians advanced, their flank and rear would be exposed. This the Russians well knew, for they went through this experience earlier in the war. They were up to Cracow's guns—in fact, had commenced an attack—when through the Carpathian passes came the Austrians, and the Russian had to clear out.

New Lines Available.

"With Przemyśl in their hands the Russians can now devote attention to the Carpathians, and have every chance of success. More than 100,000 men are released by Przemyśl's capitulation, and lines of communication of great value, hitherto unavailable on account of the Austrians' possession of Przemyśl, are now open, making speedy movements of large Russian forces to required points much easier. If Russia can gain the Carpathian passes, and hold them, as she doubtless next will endeavor to do, she will be able to advance a great force on Cracow.

Once in Cracow, the Russians are in Silesia, which is just as much Germany as Westphalia. The road to Berlin will be open. I think the Russians will get

Cracow this time. They would have had Przemyśl long since except for Hindenburg's great first advance on Warsaw, which made a general withdrawal of the Russians all along the line necessary."

Another British military critic goes so far as to state his reputation on the prophecy that Cracow will fall within the next month, and that when it does, or before, Austria will endeavor to conclude a separate peace.

Berlin Admits Effect of Capture

Berlin (via London), March 23.—The press of the German capital unites in paying tribute to the defenders of Przemyśl, whom, it is declared, only hunger could subdue. At the same time there is no disposition to make light of the defeat. The "Lokal-Anzeiger" says:

"We have no intention of minimizing the loss our brave allies have suffered. Przemyśl was strong and a great fortress. It showed its strength in its proud defence. We mourn with our allies its loss and the loss of its commander and garrison, who have won laurels whose glory captivity cannot destroy."

The "Vossische-Zeitung" says the fort's fall releases the beleaguering army, but while it is not known where it will be employed, the Austrians undoubtedly are informed and will take the necessary steps.

"While we thoroughly agree with the view of the Austrian General Staff that the fall of Przemyśl can have no influence on the general situation, we are, nevertheless, 'admittedly,' as it is a painful blow dealt our cause on the right wing of our mutual thousand-kilometer front."

SAYS CAILLAUX AID AIDED SPY

Governess Testifies in Desciaux Trial Regarding a Mysterious Uniform.

Paris, March 23.—The trial today of Colonel Francois Desciaux, General Paymyster of the Army, who is charged with having stolen army stores, was devoted to the testimony of the servants of Mme. Bechoff, the wife of a German, in whose house the stolen goods are said to have been found, and that of several officers and character witnesses.

The cook for Mme. Bechoff testified that she had heard Mme. Bechoff complain to M. Desciaux for sending the supplies to her home and of hearing M. Desciaux reply that it was his affair.

The governess employed by Mme. Bechoff told of M. Desciaux having delivered to Mme. Bechoff the uniform of a French dragon. The governess said she could not resist denouncing her employer and M. Desciaux, as she thought the uniform was destined to disguise a German in order that he might better be able to spy among the French.

This and other statements during the hearing caused an outburst on the part of those in the courtroom and a threat by the President of the Court to expel the disorderly persons.

AIRSHIP DANGER ALARMS PARIS

Possibility of Zeppelin Falling in City, with Its Explosives, Discussed.

Paris, March 23.—Ex-Premier Georges Clemenceau and other prominent writers in the Paris press criticize the aerial defenses of Paris. They declare Zeppelins should not have been able to reach Paris on Sunday, the night being clear and starlit. The danger of an air raid over the capital, with the possibility of the fall of a Zeppelin with its cargo of unused explosives, is pointed out.

The views are shared by the Deputies representing the Paris district, who decided at a meeting yesterday to make representations on the subject to Premier Viviani.

Details have not been obtained as to the circumstances of the second raid upon Paris, which was attempted last night. It is understood that two fleets had planned to bombard the capital, but it is supposed they turned back because of the heavy rainstorm when twenty-five miles from the city.

When, at 3 a. m., no hostile craft had appeared, the firemen's bugles sounded the "retreat," and the lights of the city were turned on again.

DACIA SEIZURE APPROVED

Paris, March 23 (via London).—A commission of inquiry into the capture of a French cruiser of the American steamship Dacia has declared the seizure to be valid.

The case now goes before the French prize court, which is expected to hand down its decision.

WHITLOCK GETS LEAVE FOR BRITISH WOMEN

London, March 23.—Through the efforts of the American Minister at Brussels, Brand Whitlock, the British Foreign Office announced this evening, permission has been obtained from the German authorities for British women and children to leave Belgium. A special train will convey them from Brussels to the Dutch frontier.

BREITUNG SAYS DACIA BROKERS MADE THREATS

Money or Notoriety, Club Held Over Him, Banker Now Declares.

DENIES PROMISING ANY COMMISSIONS

Insists He Bought Vessel, Now a War Prize, Without Agents—Thus Answers Suit.

Threats of "notoriety and publicity" if he did not advance commission money on the purchase of the steamship Dacia, now in the French prize court, are alleged in a statement issued by N. Breitung, last night in comment on the suit which Egon von Novelly, a ship broker, has brought for \$100,000, a 40 per cent interest in the vessel and a freight profit percentage on the Dacia's cotton cargo.

Mr. Breitung's statement, when reduced to type, covers practically six dozen sheets. He reviews the sequence of events leading up to the negotiations for the Hamburg-American vessel, and even goes back ten years to explain his interest in maritime trade by detailing a previous plan he had for engaging in ocean commerce. The statements, which he calls

"reckless and serious," that have appeared recently in the newspapers, purporting to come from Novelly or his attorneys, have impelled him, Mr. Breitung says, to break his silence.

How Dacia Was Bought.

Last August, Mr. Breitung says, he realized that there would be big profits to be gained in the European freight trade. He investigated conditions and tried to get possession of lake steamers for ocean service. These efforts failed, and he took no further steps to obtain vessels until the latter part of November when H. O. Schundler, whom he met about three years ago, called on him and talked over the shipping situation.

Mr. Schundler, Mr. Breitung says, was not in his employ at that time, but their common interest in maritime trade impelled Mr. Schundler to submit a written report outlining freight rates at various European ports and to mention several boats, one of them the Dacia, which might be purchased. Thereupon, Mr. Breitung says, he instructed Schundler to negotiate for the boat, and the result was an agreement to purchase the Dacia for \$165,000 from the Hamburg-American Line.

On December 16, Mr. Breitung says, he left for Chicago, giving instructions to Max Breitung, his office manager, to complete the purchase of the Dacia on the understanding that the price should be \$165,000, without commissions of any kind, and that he should have a written report outlining freight rates at various European ports and to mention several boats, one of them the Dacia, which might be purchased. Thereupon, Mr. Breitung says, he instructed Schundler to negotiate for the boat, and the result was an agreement to purchase the Dacia for \$165,000 from the Hamburg-American Line.

Although he acted on the advice of his lawyers and dealt directly with the Hamburg-American Line, Mr. Breitung continues, his representative, Max Breitung, was shown at this meeting a formal transfer through Novelly and Hoey.

Says They Understood.

Max Breitung thereupon reminded Novelly and Hoey that the purchase of the Dacia had been made on the understanding that Mr. Breitung was dealing directly with the Hamburg-American Line, and that no commission or brokerage fee would be recognized or paid. Novelly and Hoey replied, the Breitung statement says, that they understood this fully and that they had no understanding with Mr. Schundler for their brokerage fees in the matter, Mr. Schundler corroborating this.

Max Breitung then handed Mr. Novelly a certified check for \$18,500, the purchase price, \$148,500, was paid and a bill of sale executed and delivered. American registry was granted on January 10 of this year.

In previous talks with Novelly Schundler had made it plain, Mr. Breitung says, that whatever commissions were to be paid he would have to pay himself, and that Mr. Breitung would pay nothing. Mr. Breitung says that Novelly, Hoey and Schundler came to the office of his lawyers and there Novelly and Hoey signed a statement that they had no claim on the Dacia, and were to receive solely from Schundler "such compensation as he thinks proper."

Wanted More Money.

Toward the end of February, however, Mr. Breitung says, Novelly had several conversations with Schundler, in which he told Schundler he thought he should have got a larger commission, and that he was going to ask Mr. Breitung for some money. Mr. Breitung says that Novelly told Schundler that if he did not get the money he "would cause notoriety and publicity in regard to the Dacia." He finally became threatening, Mr. Breitung says, and the interview ended with Schundler ordering the broker out of his office.

Next, the statement continues, Hoey, Novelly's partner, called and reiterated the complaint about the amount of the commissions. Mr. Schundler replied that he was at all times ready to pay exactly what had been agreed upon, but not a cent more. Soon afterward, Mr. Breitung says, he received a letter from Novelly's lawyers regarding the prospective suit, and then a summons was served on him in the present action.

A statement signed by W. W. G. Sichel, vice-director of the Hamburg-American Line, was issued last night declaring that the line sold the Dacia to Mr. Breitung without any agreement or understanding by which the free use or transfer of the Dacia was in any way restricted.

DUTCH SHIP FIRED ON BY GERMANS

Armed Trawler Chased Vessel—British Steamer Attacked by Aeroplanes.

London, March 24.—A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam says:

"The Dutch steamer Mecklenburg, which left Flushing this morning (Tuesday) for England, was chased and fired upon by a German armed steam trawler. Three shots were fired at the Mecklenburg, but the steamer put on full speed and continued her journey to London.

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Official War Bulletins

WESTERN FRONT.

PARIS (Issued at 11:30 p. m.)—In Belgium, in the region of Nieupoort, our artillery has destroyed several observation points and points of support, from which we saw the occupants take flight.

To the northwest of Arras, at Carency, we captured a German trench, which we destroyed, and also took some prisoners.

At Soissons there was a fresh attempt at a bombardment, which was stopped almost immediately by our artillery.

In Champagne the enemy bombarded the positions taken by us during the last few days, but did not attack. At Vauquois, near the church, the Germans sprayed one of our trenches with an inflammable liquid. At this point our troops had sustained some fifteen men.

At Les Eparges the enemy made two attacks, which were completely stopped.

At Hartmanns-Weilerkopf we captured a line of trenches and a block-house.

(Issued at 3:30 p. m.)—The enemy yesterday bombarded Rheims. A German aviator dropped bombs on the town and claimed three victims among the civilians.

In the Champagne region, we made slight progress to the east of Hill 196.

In the Argonne, near Bagatelle, the enemy twice delivered violent counter attacks to recapture the ground he lost on Sunday. Both counter-attacks were completely repulsed.

BERLIN.—Two French night attacks near Carency, northwest of Arras, were repulsed.

In Champagne, German troops successfully blew up mines and repulsed a night attack north of Beaulieu. Minor French advances near Combreux, Apremont and Elzey were without success. An attack against the German positions northeast of Eudonville broke down under the German fire. The enemy sustained heavy losses.

Hostile aviators again threw several bombs on Ostend. No damage was done to the military establishments, but several Belgians were killed or wounded. Northwest of Ardun, a French aviator was shot down. A French aircraft, manned with two French non-commissioned officers, was forced to land near Freiburg. The occupants of the aeroplane were captured.

LONDON.—Since the last communication all has been quiet on our front and there is no incident to report. The enemy's artillery has been active occasionally on individual sectors of our lines, without affecting the situation or inflicting any damage at all commensurate with the amount of ammunition expended.

On the 20th and 21st the enemy's aircraft displayed unwonted activity, venturing conditions being particularly favorable. Bombs were dropped on Lillers, St. Omer and Lillers. The material result was slight, the only buildings which were damaged being private property, neither occupied by soldiers nor used for military purposes. The total damage to the personnel was three women and four civilians killed and about half a dozen civilians wounded.

These bombs were dropped from a great height, in one case 9,000 feet. This prevented the airman from taking deliberate aim at any military objective. This procedure is a great tribute to the respect in which our Royal Flying Corps is held by the enemy, as the airman increases his chance of escaping pursuit by taking advantage of the time required for our aircraft to get the necessary height from which to engage him.

EASTERN FRONT.

PETROGRAD.—According to figures given by General Kusmanek, late commander at Przemyśl, the number of prisoners who surrendered to the Russians was nine generals and ninety-three officers of the General Staff and 2,500 officers and officials and 117,000 men.

General von Kusmanek accepted our demands for an unconditional surrender of the garrison. Our troops who entered the fortress have taken possession of the fortifications and begun to prepare lists of the prisoners and to ascertain the amount of artillery and war material captured.

In the Carpathians our troops continue successfully to make progress on the front from the Duk Pass to the Upper San rivers, where they have captured up to the present 5,500 men, sixteen machine guns and three guns. Attacks by the enemy in the direction of Ussok were repulsed.

Our detachment, which reconnoitered Memel, has retired to Russian territory.

On the left bank of the Niemen, in the region of Mariampol, we have repulsed a German attack, inflicting upon the enemy heavy losses.

On the road from Kalwaria to Suwalki, near Pilawski, our cavalry, profiting by the darkness and a snowstorm, captured a German convoy with a quantity of provision wagons. The escorts either were killed or made prisoners.

Our artillery at Osowetz has obtained successful results. The fire from the German batteries has perceptibly weakened.

On the other sectors, on the left bank of the Vistula and the right bank of the Narew, there has been no important change.

BERLIN.—German troops are pursuing the Russian who were driven from Memel, East Prussia. The Germans occupied the Russian town of Krottingen, across the border from Memel, and freed more than 3,000 Germans who had been dragged away from their homes by the Russians.

Attacks made by Russian troops on both sides of the Orzye River, in Russian Poland, were repulsed.

VIENNA.—Fighting in the Carpathians from Ussok to Konieczna continues. During the last two days violent attacks by the Russians were repulsed and we captured 3,300 prisoners.

In a fight for a height near Wyssok we succeeded in driving the enemy from his position and captured eight officers and 655 men.

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"Owing to this incident the Zealand company, owners of the steamer, hereafter will not transport British, Belgian, French or Russian men of military age."

Southampton (via London), March 23.—The British steamer Pandion, which arrived here to-day from Rotterdam, reports that yesterday, in the vicinity of the North Hinder Light, she was twice attacked by a German aeroplane. Seven bombs were dropped by the aircraft, some of which fell very close to the Pandion, but the steamer escaped damage.



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